another direction, depending not only on cultivation, but also on the whole environment. So if we want to improve and keep our soils in a state of good biological activity, in good balance with nature, then we have to take into account not only a single factor, not only the mineral nutrients, but also the organic matter content and the microlife in our soil, in our farm and garden. Then, too, we have to consider the influences of the direct environment of the land *around* our soil, and the influences of water, air and warmth, the activity of the atmosphere *above* our soils. We must not forget that the soil is a living organism in itself, but that it is also included in the whole living organism of the earth.

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